REMARKS

Claims 54, 56, and 60-66 are pending in this application. Those claims have been rewritten in independent form, and as such they have been indicated as being allowable. Claims 1-53, 55, 57-59, and 67-76 have been canceled without prejudice in the interest of hastening issuance of the allowed claims. Applicant reserves the right to pursue all canceled claims in one or more continuing applications.

Applicant believes it has fully responded to the subject Office Action; if the Examiner believes otherwise, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 54, 56 and 60-66 are in condition for allowance, and such is earnestly requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

It is believed that no fees are required for this submission. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees for this submission or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-3483.

Respectfully submitted,

/court b. allen/
Courtenay B. Allen
Reg. No. 43,469
COX SMITH MATTHEWS INCORPORATED
112 East Pecan Street, Suite 1800
San Antonio, Texas 78205-1536
(210) 526-8395 (FAX)

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT

Date: December 16, 2009

Electronic submission USPTO EFS Web December 16, 2009